

SHIPPING BOARD TO BE PROBED BY CONGRESS

Three Bills Call for Full Investigation of All Charges.

MEASURE IN HOUSE SEEKS ABOLITION

Creates New Bureau Within Department Of Commerce.

Congress is preparing to make a searching inquiry into the affairs of the Shipping Board, out of which may come the board's abolition and the transfer of its functions to the Department of Commerce.

Broadly, Congress wants to know why the board continues to be a liability, and why the American flag has not been established on the seas after \$3,500,000,000 were invested. The feeling prevails that the dream of an American merchant marine may vanish, and the investment of billions develop into a total loss.

There is dissatisfaction with the present methods of operating the board. An account of its past performance is desired. And Congress wants to know, once for all, the truth of persistent allegations that "ministerial influence" are seeking to wreck the merchant marine. Senators and Representatives of both parties are determined to get at all facts in the situation, and are in a temper to take drastic action.

Open Triple Attack.

The attack on the board has been opened in three ways:

1. A bill to be introduced today by Representative Sweet, of Iowa, calling for the abolition of the board of American Merchant Marine, under the Secretary of Commerce.
2. A resolution passed by the Senate yesterday directing the board to make a complete statement to the Senate of its debts, available funds and the amount of unpaid claims against it.
3. A resolution offered in the House yesterday by Representative Ramseyer, of Iowa, calling for an inquiry of the board's properties, their original cost and present appraised value, and a list of the board's employees and their salaries.

Sweet's measure is said to have support in both chambers, and its proponents believe it will become law. It would transfer the board, connected with the board to the Department of Commerce, and abolish the present trustees of the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation. At the head of the "Bureau of American Merchant Marine" would be a director at a salary of \$10,000 annually, who would function under the Secretary of Commerce.

A Schmitt for the transfer of the board to one of the executive departments has been growing in connection with the projected executive reorganization. A part of the same plan would be to lodge the board's quasi-judicial functions with the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Believe Shipping Act Violated.

One of the reasons for the introduction of the Sweet measure is the recent broadening of the powers of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, which is said to be in violation of the Jones shipping act. It is held when powers are given to the corporation, which is to effect a private concern, administrative and legislative regulation becomes difficult.

Discussions surrounding the passage of the Pointdexter resolution indicated the widespread dissatisfaction in the Senate. Pointdexter declared the delay of the board in paying claims against it was "the rankest kind of fraud." Chairman Laaker, according to Pointdexter, said, when inquiries were made, that the claims were not paid, that the board had no money to pay them, and that he intended to do nothing about it.

Senator Borah offered an amendment which would have elicited information on the number of shipping board employees and the salaries they are paid, but withdrew it at the suggestion of Pointdexter. Borah announced, however, that he would introduce it later.

"The Shipping Board is making no attempt to carry out the policy of economy promised the people," said Borah.

Senator La Follette said he was preparing "some interesting data" for the Senate hearing on the shipping bill. He said he was seeking destruction of the merchant marine. He will present this information to the Senate, he said, with resolutions asking for an investigation.

"The Senate will never get complete information on the activities of the board until a sweeping investigation is instituted," said La Follette.

Senator Underwood, Democratic leader, said the Senate should go to the bottom of reports that influence was working against the merchant marine. He declared that there has been an effort for a century to keep American ships off the seas.

"Congress should investigate these charges," he said. "If there is something wrong it should be cleaned out."

Senator Freylinghusen said the books of the board are worthless. Hundreds of charges, have never been reported.

Fairfax Methodists Will Give Minstrel Show

FAIRFAX, Va., Oct. 20.—A minstrel show will be given in the town hall here by Misses of class of young women of the Methodist Church next Monday night. Music will be furnished by Susie's Orchestra. A farce will be given of the class of the first part of the show.

A masquerade and box party will be given at the Centerville schoolhouse Friday night, October 28, by the Centerville School League.

Germany Wants 'Harmony Army' Of U.S. to Stay

American Troops on the Rhine Principal Factor In Preventing Clashes.

By ROBERT J. BENDER.

A "harmonizing influence" is still urgently needed along the Rhine, so American troops will be retained there indefinitely.

Until European conditions are more stabilized and some international understanding is substituted for the allied Rhine police force, so that France may feel insured against German aggression or failure to meet the Versailles treaty terms, an American force will continue in the occupied territory. With the exchange of treaty ratifications between the United States and Germany, however, the present American troops will be reduced in number.

The decision of this government in the matter is due to a combination of circumstances and is interesting because it is contrary to the original intention of President Harding and sharply opposed to the demands of a number of Republican Senate leaders.

Retention of forces on the Rhine is certain to cause some trouble in Congress, and bring a demand in the Senate for their return. Senators of the "irreconcilable" group, with the support of others, were prepared to introduce resolutions demanding the Rhine army's return months ago. They were dissuaded by the argument that the negotiation and ratification of a peace treaty would accomplish their purpose. Prominent among them were Senators Borah and Johnson, irreconcilable leaders.

"All Senators who voted for the peace treaty in the belief that it meant the return of the soldiers will be interested in what is done now," said Borah Thursday. He was not yet ready, however, to declare what if anything he might do.

The situation confronting the United States government, however, is this: At present, France is maintaining an army on the Rhine of approximately 170,000 men, Belgium has 17,000 and England has about 14,000. The American force of 15,000 is regarded as one of the best disciplined and most efficient forces in Europe; but what has made them extremely valuable in the trying situation there is that they command the respect of the Germans—both the allies and Germany—because of their good nature, comradeship and self-control. They have not been influenced by the same intense emotions that have gripped the peoples of those countries by the Germans, and hence have commanded confidence on both sides, have prevented numerous clashes, and have come to be known as the "peace army" of the Rhine.

This is the reason given by those urging retention of the American troops. If they were withdrawn in their entirety, it is pointed out, French troops would have to step into the gap made by their departure. This would place an almost continuous line of French soldiers along the German border, because the British and Belgian sectors are very small. With the feeling between the Germans and French already intense, it is frankly feared that removal of the Americans, taking away their modifying influence, would materially increase the possibility of trouble, decrease the chances for a peaceful solution of the situation, and indefinitely postpone removal of all allied troops contemplated in the proposed solution.

Needed as Harmonizers.

Allied leaders have repeatedly pointed out to inquirers the absolute necessity of America retaining its harmonizing influence in that trouble zone. And while some French business interests have desired withdrawal of the troops, recent inquiries among the foremost German leaders by responsible American business men have revealed a great majority of them strongly in favor of the troops remaining at least until conditions become more stabilized.

It has been indicated by spokesmen of the administration in recent weeks that it was their desire to remove as soon as possible this added burden upon Germany, because Germany must eventually pay for the allied forces of occupation. French business interests have decried German opinion, generally speaking, holds that the extra cost of maintaining the American troops would be of small consequence as compared with the beneficial effects of their presence.

SENATOR STERLING ILL WITH VERTIGO

Senator Thomas Sterling, of South Dakota, was stricken with vertigo while listening to the revenue bill debate in the Senate chamber yesterday afternoon. Richard Fields, captain of the pages, sprang to his assistance, while Senator Borah, who was seated next to him, helped him to the floor. He was taken to his home, 2700 Thirty-sixth street northwest, in a motor car.

Trying to Flee Jail, Negro's Feet Hold Him

LEESBURG, Va., Oct. 20.—Bob Jones, a young colored man indicted at the last term of court here for house-breaking, and awaiting trial, attempted to escape by pounding his way through the iron door of his cell and burrowing beneath the bars. He worked himself into the hole he had made, but one of his feet was caught between the bars and the door. His body being wedged in the aperture, he could not extricate himself, was firmly trapped and remained so two or three hours until his struggles aroused another prisoner, who summoned the jailer.

Jones says his plan was to get into the corridor, hide behind the door and overpower the jailer as he opened it to give breakfast to the inmates.

REDS IN PARIS CARRY ON PLANS TO COERCE U.S.

Indignation Over Herrick Bombing Fails to Halt Activities.

BRIAND TOLERANCE BLAMED FOR ATTACK

Premier Faces Fight for Failure to Curb the Communists.

PARIS, Oct. 20.—Ignoring the storm of indignation aroused by the bomb explosion in the home of Ambassador Myron T. Herrick, the Communist groups in Paris are boldly carrying forward their plans for a series of demonstrations designed to intimidate the United States government in the cases of two Italian radicals, Sacco and Vanzetti, awaiting sentence for murder in Massachusetts. The object of the radical agitators is to force the American government, through apprehension for the lives of its ambassadors, to interfere in the case and cause the lives of the men to be spared, although they have not yet been sentenced.

The promoters of a meeting scheduled for Sunday are going ahead with their program on a large scale, expecting all the radical elements of Paris to be represented. It is their intention also to hold many other meetings in provincial France before November 1. The American consuls in six provincial towns have received protests or petitions from the radicals for the pardon of the murderers, and the police of those cities are guarding the consular offices and the homes of the consuls to prevent demonstrations.

Trailing Bomb Package.

The prefecture of police announced today that operatives have ascertained from what postoffice the bomb was mailed to Ambassador Herrick. They are following up the matter, but refuse to give out any further information at this time. The prefecture declines to say whether next Friday's Communist meeting will be permitted.

Officials seem much disturbed by the possibility that the United States may regard the anarchists as much more numerous and powerful in France than they actually are. They insist that the groups are small, and receive their inspiration direct from Moscow, but add they will go to any lengths to accomplish their purpose.

The political persecution from the explosion in the home of Ambassador Herrick may have much more force and more important consequences than the actual explosion. Members of all political parties, except the Socialists and anarchists, are highly incensed at this attempt on the life of the one Ambassador in Paris beloved above all others, as he represents the country to which France looks more than to any other.

Attack Briand's Tolerance.

Premier Briand has been under fire in the chamber for two days now, for among other alleged failures, his refusal to exert all the pressure against the Communists, whose propaganda has been growing more vigorous and daring. Only last spring Minister of Justice Bismarck and Minister of War Barthelemy drafted bills designed to curb the activities of the Communists, although it must be said that these measures were aimed directly at the anti-militarists. The Socialists and other liberal newspapers protested so loudly against these measures, however, that Briand withdrew them.

A striking coincidence of yesterday was that while Deputy Mandel, Clemenceau's political follower, was attacking Briand in the chamber for failing to use vigorous methods against the radicals, the bomb was delivered. The center and right are certain to seize upon the episode and demand that Briand crush the Communists if he wants their continued support, the alternative being the overthrow of his administration. These parties are agreed that the incident is the more deplorable as occurring on the eve of the Washington conference, because it might give the impression that France has lost her discipline and is verging toward the left, even toward anarchy.

Charge Police Plot.

The Communist and Socialist press are expressing regret, but are playing down the whole incident, charging that the police planted the bomb to discredit them and their cause. The red papers continue to announce mass meetings of anarchists, and these will contribute further to Briand's embarrassment at a time when he is trying to work away from the national conservative bloc, to which he owes his office, toward a more liberal political group. If he turns about now, giving right his promise to fight the radicals, he will alienate the left.

It was considered strange that neither the Premier nor Minister of Justice Bonnevay made any statement in the chamber yesterday regarding the bombing of the Ambassador's home. Deputy Mandel, however, attacked the Socialists and Communists as advocates of a doctrine of violence which resulted in outrages. He also assailed Bonnevay's administration, again referring to the failure to avenge the murder of Maj. Montalegre in Upper Silesia. The Minister did not reply.

The Communist deputy, Berthoin, shouted: "There are French generals who are assassins!" and President Peret had difficulty in restoring order. The debate reached its climax in a futile interchange between the Premier and Berthoin on the government's Near Eastern policy.

PRESIDENT AT YORKTOWN MOUNMENT



President Harding in the cap and gown of the scholar, after having been given the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by the College of William and Mary at exercises of installation for Dr. J. A. C. Chandler as president of the institution. Photo shows President Harding and Governor Westmoreland Davis, of Virginia, leaving the ceremonies together after having received their degrees.

Lower picture shows the monument at Yorktown, where Lord Cornwallis surrendered to George Washington 140 years ago. Standing at the base of the monument, President Harding delivered a speech in which he expressed the hope for co-operation among the nations of the world, each one devoting itself to the common good, progress and advance of mankind.

Released Red Cross Worker Predicts Fall of Soviets

Capt. Emmett Kilpatrick, on Way Home, Says Iron Rule Holds Regime in Power.

Confident that the present soviet government of Russia—built upon terrorism—will not long survive, Capt. Emmett Kilpatrick, of the American Red Cross, still showing the effects of nine months' internment in soviet prisons, arrived in Washington at 8:25 o'clock last night, met by the cheers and hand-claps of more than 200 Senators, Representatives, world war veterans and members of the Alabama State Society.

Capt. Kilpatrick, who arrived in this country Monday, is en route to his home at Uniontown, Ala., to recuperate from illness contracted during his imprisonment, and is stopping over here until Saturday to make formal reports of conditions in Russia to government officials.

Over the pallor still evident on his face, a flush of emotion spread when the assemblage headed by Maj. Thacker V. Walker, president of the Alabama State Society, greeted him as he stepped from the train at Union Station.

Thanks Those Who Aided.

Choking with emotion, but smiling gratefully, Capt. Kilpatrick, after being introduced to the reception committee, expressed his thanks to all who had been instrumental in his release, placing special emphasis upon the aid of Secretary of Commerce Hoover, whose ultimatum made certain the release of all American prisoners held by the Soviet.

Among those who received Capt. Kilpatrick at Union Station were Senator J. Thomas Heflin, Senator Oscar W. Underwood, Representative Henry B. Steagall, William B. Oliver and Edward B. Almon, all of Alabama; Mrs. T. V. Walker, Col. Archer-Shee, asked why the words "Irish rebels," in a questionnaire he had put down, had been changed to Sinn Feiners. The speaker replied that on his instructions questions were not accepted which made such implications and therefore the wording was altered.

Denies Arms Imported.

In answer to another question Sir Hamar Greenwood said that the importation of arms, if proved, would be a breach of the truce. He declared that a diligent watch had been kept and there was no evidence of importation. Thompson Donald, a Belfast Orangeman, declared that one ship had brought in 800 tons of arms and Sir Hamar at once invited him to supply evidence. Mr. Donald repeated his statement that ships were arriving and that the admiral was taking no action. This Sir Hamar denied vigorously, declaring that the police were searching all ships for arms. At this point the speaker intervened, stopping the discussion.

Cruelties, starvation, pestilence and bloodshed of almost incredible proportions were pictured by Capt. Kilpatrick in recounting the sufferings he was forced to undergo after his capture and imprisonment on a charge of being an American spy in Russia.

Executions of innocent persons charged with all manner of crimes are so numerous that great numbers of motor trucks and horse-drawn carts are needed to remove the bodies from the prison yards, he said.

He declared the entire government of the country based upon a system of terror, cruelty and propaganda, and only held together by the iron-bound enforcement of these. He believes, however, that the reign of terror will soon come to an end.

STRIKE PARLEY IS EJECTED AS BROTHERHOOD CHIEFS WITHDRAW DISSATISFIED

HARDING MAY ACT TO AVERT STRIKE OF RAIL WORKERS

Believe President Will Call Conference to Bring Factions Together.

President Harding will probably personally intervene if necessary to effect an agreement among railroad workers, railroad executives and the Railroad Labor Board to prevent the threatened strike.

This was the belief late yesterday of officials here who have watched the developments in the situation, and who were greatly disappointed at the failure of the Chicago conference between the Labor Board and railroad leaders to attain definite results.

Recall Wilson's Stand.

It was the belief here the Mr. Harding might do as former President Wilson did some years ago when the great rail strike was threatening—bring labor and executives to Washington in an effort to reach an agreement. The result of that conference was a failure, and the outcome was the forcing through Congress of the Adamson eight-hour law.

If Harding calls a similar conference he will have as weapons with which to work in bringing labor to terms:

- Promise of a reduction in freight rates, and promise to seek from the executives assurance that they will not press demands for further wage decreases.
- And as weapons for use on the railroads:
- Promise to make every effort to drive through the railroad funding measure, and possibly assurance that the administration would support repeal of the Adamson eight-hour law.

Meantime, measures are going forward to break the strike if it occurs. Mail trains will be operated out of all the leading cities at the rate of two a day. Airplanes will supplement the mail train service, but it is realized by authorities that the planes cannot handle more than about 10 per cent of the scheduled mail of a medium-sized city, and that one of their greatest attributes would be in arousing the spirit of the people to help break the strike. The planes, in other words, would be used as for mail propaganda purposes as for mail business.

Pilot of Fatal Boat is Charged With Drunkenness

William J. Carter, 322 N. street northwest, pilot of the motorboat from which Theodore Cook, a city postoffice clerk, residing at 923 Twenty-third street southwest, fell into the Potomac River at the foot of O street southwest and drowned Wednesday night, was yesterday charged with operating a boat while intoxicated. This is the first time a charge of this kind has been preferred against a person in the District courts. A jury trial was set for next Tuesday and Carter was released on bond of \$100.

Up to a late hour last night Harbor District police dragged the vicinity of the river where Cook fell overboard, but no trace of the body could be found. Owing to the swift current, dragging was suspended shortly before midnight, but will be continued early today.

Theodore Barry, 222 Missouri avenue, who police say was sitting in the rear of the boat a short distance from where Cook fell into the water and who was arrested by Harbor precinct police after he notified them of the mishap, was charged with intoxication. He was fined \$10 or thirty days in jail yesterday morning and selected the latter.

SEEK TO REMOVE WAR DORMITORIES

What to do with the government dormitories and the vacant spaces between the United States Capitol and the Union Station may be solved as the result of a resolution introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator Henry W. Keyes, of New Hampshire, calling upon the Attorney General to inform the Senate what steps are necessary for the government to acquire additional property for the enlargement of the Capitol grounds.

The dormitories, which were built for the war period, occupy the ground in question, and several suggestions that they be razed in order that the space may be parked have been repudied by the occupants of the buildings, mostly women employed in departments of the government. Their contention is that they are making use of the buildings. Errors were made to oust them, but they stood their ground, and the problem was left in abeyance for Congress to decide.

The Keyes resolution was referred to the Senate District Committee, which will take the matter up at its next regular meeting, probably next Wednesday.

from Washington to hire ad fire at will.

Before going to a conference with the Federal district attorney Mr. Duncan called the remnants of the old prohibition force into the office and read the riot act to them. "Conditions in Philadelphia have got to change," he said, "and change at once. It is up to you men to enforce the laws. That's what you were appointed for."

LEE SAYS WALKOUT PLANS UNCHANGED

Barton Will Seek no Further Conferences With Union Leaders.

CHICAGO, Oct. 20.—Attempted mediation of the threatened transportation strike by the United States Labor Board has resulted in failure to reach definite results and it appears that President Harding may have to personally enter the struggle if a solution is to be effected.

Labor board members tonight predicted such a course as the next step toward avoiding the strike and brotherhood leaders indicated they were again in the position of waiting for some suggestion that would permit of their calling off the strike order issued.

The "pac conference," between the board and the five leaders of the train service brotherhoods, who have called a strike to take effect October 28, broke up here tonight when the union leaders walked out of the session and returned to Cleveland.

Board Issues Statement.

At the conclusion of the night session, the board gave out the following statement:

"The labor board and the brotherhood chiefs have had a full and frank discussion in a perfectly pleasant way. The interview has been beneficial, but we cannot say that any definite results have been attained."

The disruption of the conference, it was stated by members of the board, followed inability of the government body to give the brotherhood chiefs complete assurance that recalling of the strike order would result in withdrawal of the application that railroad executives intend to file with the board.

At the conclusion of the afternoon conference the labor board declared that progress was being made and that an agreement was possible.

The union leaders asked for two hours, to talk over the suggestions of the board, but led by Warren S. Stone, grand chief of the engineers, they returned to the conference in a grim frame of mind.

The night session lasted less than two hours. Suddenly the brotherhood leaders emerged from the chambers, hurried to the elevator and returned to their hotel.

Going Back to Cleveland.

"Anything that is said about this conference will have to come from Chairman Barton," said W. G. Lee, president of the trainmen. "We are to get here and are going back to get on the job in Cleveland in the morning."

"The strike is still on then?" he was asked.

"Nothing has happened to change our plans," he replied.

Chairman Barton declared that no further effort would be made by the board to confer with the brotherhoods.

"We have had our discussion and so far as we know there will be no other between the board and the brotherhoods on the question of this controversy," he said.

The quick end of the parley came as a complete surprise to the board, it was stated. At the afternoon adjournment Chairman Barton and other members of the board were in the frame of mind. It was thought then that the board would accept the suggestion of the board to delay any application of the roads for further wage cuts. The leaders were assured that the \$400,000 wage cut of last July would be translated into freight rate reductions. They were told that no immediate cut in wages would be granted.

When the men returned, it was stated by one board member, they demanded that immediate action be taken to assure them that no further wage cuts would be granted. The board was forced to reply that this promise could not be given, as the matter was one over which they have no control.

Even with the disruption of the conference here and the declaration of the brotherhood chiefs that their purpose in putting the strike into effect was to force the board to grant wage cuts, the board declared that all hopes of a satisfactory ending of mediation before the strike is called are not gone.

The brotherhood chiefs will probably be called to Washington within a few days," said one public member.

The brotherhood chiefs who refused to accept the government's peace offer are: Warren S. Stone, grand chief of the Brotherhood of Engineers; W. S. Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Firemen and Enginemen; L. E. Sheppard, president of the Order of Railway Conductors; C. C. Cashen, president of the Switchmen's Union of North America.

Immediately following the conclusion of the parley of the brotherhoods with the Labor Board, 100 grand chiefs of the Federated Shop Crafts Union, 20 grand chiefs of the Western Hotel, These unions have not yet issued any strike call.

\$15,000,000 LIQUOR FRAUD UNCOVERED AT PHILADELPHIA

State Prohibition Director's Name Forged On Permits.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 20.—Liquors worth \$15,000,000 have been sold in Philadelphia in recent months on fraudulent permits, Washington investigators working here announced today. Every permit bore the name of Senator William C. McConnell, State prohibition director, though he signed only two.

McConnell made the latter statement today after he had been subpoenaed, together with A. F. Slater, his former secretary, and Hiram W. Benner, enforcement agent in charge of permits, to appear at the arraignment tomorrow of six alleged bootlegging conspirators. Both Slater and Benner were fired in a reorganization made by S. F. Rutter, "associate director," appointed to clean up alleged laxity and corruption in enforcement in this State.

Will Probe Deep.

It is considered probable that a special Federal grand jury and a special deputy Federal attorney general will be called to handle the liquor situation here.

"All the information concerning the whisky," Assistant Commissioner Duncan said, "the names of the persons who got the permits, and the destination and ultimate disposal of these stocks, are in our hands and we have turned it over to the Federal attorney."

He declared that there was sufficient evidence for the arrest of certain individuals mentioned in connection with alleged illegal permits.

No permits bearing McConnell's name are to be honored anywhere, by an order of Commissioner Haynes which was spread broadcast today.

"Hire and Fire" at Will.

Other developments in the clean-up campaign are the dismissal of three employees of the enforcement commission here and one of the Pittsburgh office. Both supervising agents have orders

Three Liquor Raids In Clarke County

BERRYVILLE, Va., Oct. 19.—Three alleged illicit stills were raided yesterday in various sections of Clarke County by local officers operating in conjunction with internal revenue agents, and three men were arrested and given trials before Judge of the several communities known what had happened.